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AFGHANISTAN

FACT SHEET

Badghis Province

OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Badghis from January 2002 - December 2010: \$26.4 million

Estimated population: 440,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Qala-I-Naw

Note: Spanish-led PRT



Badghis, meaning *home of the winds*, was formed in 1964 from sections of the provinces of Hirat and Faryab. The population comprises mainly Dari-speaking Uzbeks and Tajiks. In Badghis, agriculture and animal husbandry are the main sources of income. The region produces wheat, barley, and sesame. Its pistachio forests, neglected during 30 years of war, are slowly being renewed. Badghis is traversed by the newly built Ring Road and has a small airport in Qala-I-Naw.

AGRICULTURE

Goal: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income through a) increased agricultural productivity by increasing farmer access to inputs and effective extension services; b) invigorated agribusiness by increasing linkages between farmers, markets, credit, and trade corridors; and c) rehabilitated watersheds and improved irrigation infrastructure. Also, increase Afghans' confidence in their government by increased Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock's (MAIL) capacity to deliver services and promote the private sector and farmer associations through direct budget and technical assistance.

Summary: USAID prepares farmers to participate in a modern agricultural economy through veterinary services, improved irrigation, training, and food security.

Current Activities:

- Rehabilitate irrigation canals
- Build a market to increase agricultural trade in the area
- Improve wool harvest and processing

Accomplishments:

- Rehabilitated one canal to provide a reliable water supply to farmers
- Provided training to increase farmers' agricultural knowledge and to promote direct linkages between food brokers and farmers
- Established 20 rural farm stores in seven districts of the province, trained 15 staff, and established a provincial association of store owners
- Established 27 veterinary field units, trained 31 para-veterinarians, and administered more than three million vaccines and other medications
- Trained four technicians on using the National Agriculture Information System
- Distributed approximately 16,000 seed and fertilizer vouchers



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- Initiated three community constructed irrigation and canal protection projects that will protect 2,050 jeribs of agricultural land serving more than 1,100 families and have provided more than \$24,800 in wages for more than 240 affected community members working on these projects
- Established six wool spinning and carpet associations for women to produce their own yarn for carpet production
- Contributed to the development of the Rangeland Law on behalf of herders
- Trained Kuchi leaders in peace and negotiation methods
- Supported provincial Kuchi Shura
- Paid \$522,700 in wages on 25 cash-for-work projects in Badghis
- Dewormed 941,000 sheep and goats
- Conducted melon fly training for more than 20,000 people resulting in a 118 percent increase in melon production

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

Goal: Build the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality of government services to Afghan citizens. Support independent media institutions and advocacy groups.

Summary: USAID strengthens democracy and governance in Badghis through activities that assist the justice sector, media, civil society, and governance development.

Current Activities:

- Training provincial and district-level civil servants in the five common functions highlighted in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: financial management, human resources management, procurement, project management, and strategy and policy development.
- Embedding technical advisors in provincial line departments, who provide on-the-job training to civil servants to increase service delivery.
- Support the Women Activities and Social Services Association, which will organize community dialogues, run resource centers, monitor grantees, and provide capacity building to target civil-society organizations
- Provide capacity building, training, and small grants to Afghan civil-society organizations showing potential to be sustainable, effective organizations in Badghis Province
- Train Provincial Council Members on the council's legal rights, monitoring and oversight, and get them to communicate with the constituents and represent them at government entities
- Provide access for the governor and his office to the Performance Based Governors Fund, which provides governors with a \$25,000/month fund to cover operational expenditures and perform community outreach projects

Accomplishments:

- Supported the development of the justice sector through the publication and distribution of judicial reference laws
- Developed and trained judges and court administrators in the Afghanistan Court Administration System
- Supported the Enjeel Association of United Sisters for a citizen's platform for gender equality project
- Supported the 2010 voter registration update exercise; assisted domestic and international observation missions; trained political parties and candidate poll agents; conducted series of poll surveys ahead of the 2010 election; and provided civic education and media outreach activities for broad-based participation to promote a democratically-elected government



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- Provided core, skills, and ethics training providing judges with the tools necessary to officiate over the courts
- Promoted legal and human rights awareness, including women's rights, through public education campaigns in a variety of media, and provided institutional, capacity-building training to civil-society organizations
- Provided training and support to provincial councils, which improved professionalism, knowledge, and skills, resulting in more effective and transparent leadership
- Facilitated consensus-building efforts through civic-education training and dialogue sessions with mullahs and Sharia scholars
- Supported voter registration, assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and independent poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys, and supported the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections
- Built and renovated three district administration centers

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Goal: Promote a thriving, legal economy led by the private sector.

Summary: USAID promotes economic development through expanding access to telecommunications and automating banking services, and supporting small and medium enterprises.

Current Activities:

- Support Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) accounting and financial management department at DAB Badghis to prepare for implementation of the Core Bank System, DAB's automated transaction management and accounting system, which improves service delivery, funds transfers, and financial reporting functions
- Promote economic related information and data collection activities in Badghis Province to build DAB regional economic research and analytical functions introduced in DAB zone offices
- Support the revenue reconciliation team of the Badghis Mustofiat, centered on accurate revenue collection posting and reporting to center
- Conduct budget training programs and provide technical assistance to provincial officials in preparing annual budget estimates through support to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) provincial budgeting team and provincial budgeting officers based in the training hub in Hirat
- Promote improved cash management operations with regard to availability and quality of bank notes in circulation

Accomplishments:

- Conducted four business association training programs on marketing and association formation for 162 men and women
- Established 10 business and sector associations, which provide services and support to the private sector
- Installed the revenue reconciliation and accounting database in the Badghis Mustofiat, which has dramatically reduced processing times of Afghan government revenue receipts, production on revenue reports, and uploading into the consolidated MoF Financial Management System
- Installed three District Communications Network centers, operated by Afghan Telecom, that provide telephones, Internet, and copying services to both the district government officials and the public
- Promoted economic expansion and private-sector development through microcredit lending
- Disbursed more than \$834,000 in microfinance loans through USAID-funded financial institutions



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- Improved quality of low value bank notes in circulation
- Trained five Baghdis officials during a west region provincial budgeting capacity building event in preparing budget estimates and planning to increase their participation in the national budget process to reflect local priorities

EDUCATION

Goal: Improve the quality of basic education through increased availability of primary school textbooks.

Summary: USAID supports educational improvements in Baghdis Province through national education programs. USAID has provided radio-based teacher support programs, textbook support, and constructed and/or refurbished schools.

Current Activities:

- Continue textbook support

Accomplishments:

- Provided teacher training and literacy services to improve the quality of education
- Printed more than 860,000 primary education textbooks
- Constructed or refurbished 13 schools

HEALTH

Goal: Improve the access to and quality of health services and increase the abilities of individuals, families, and communities to protect their health.

Summary: USAID's principal investments in Badghis Province come through nationwide programs, including support for health and family planning products and provision of training courses

Current Activities:

- Distribute community awareness materials for tuberculosis, diagnostic, treatment, and training packages for tuberculosis including a database information system and maintenance equipment for the database
- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 15 communicable diseases in four sentinel sites
- Support social marketing of health and family planning products (such as condoms, water purification, and oral rehydration salts for diarrhea) through 33 private-sector outlets
- Train Community Health Worker Trainers and Community Health Supervisors, and orient new non-governmental organization staff to expand the use of postpartum family planning

Accomplishments:

- Trained 13,400 pharmacists, shura members, and community health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare in the province

STABILIZATION

Goal: Improve stability, extend the reach of the Afghan government, and promote stabilization efforts that lay the groundwork for medium- to long-term development activities.



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Summary: USAID creates linkages and builds confidence between communities and the local government through small-scale infrastructure, training, and community-development projects.

Current Activities:

- Provide stabilization assistance kits to families in Muqur and Qadis districts
- Construct a number of small-scale infrastructure including: boundary walls for schools, irrigation works, road graveling, canal cleaning, and school refurbishments throughout Muqur, Badghis, Qadis, and Bala Murghab districts
- Provide temporary employment and income opportunities for communities threatened by food insecurity through projects such as road rehabilitation and graveling, irrigation canal cleaning, home-based tailoring for women, culvert construction, and local water catchments
- Assist families who suffered losses as a result of international military operations against anti-government elements

Accomplishments:

- Provided furniture as needed to both provincial and district government facilities in Qadis and Muqur districts
- Rehabilitated 8.5 km of road in the Gulchin area of Muqur and Qadis districts
- Improved infrastructure through road rehabilitations, school boundary wall construction, and irrigation system rehabilitations across Muqur District
- Increased access to government services in Bala Murghab District through reconstruction of roads
- Completed the refurbishment of a clinic in Mohamad Zee Village
- Helped 16,300 people through labor-intensive, canal cleaning, tailoring and road graveling activities
- Assisted six families who suffered losses as a result of international military operations against anti-government elements with individual grants including small business, training, courses and equipment e.g. for tailoring and carpet weaving